

Publication lists county foreclosures

Special supplement: The Observer and Eccentric newspapers has published a special 24-page publication for the Oakland County Treasurer's Department, called "Notice of Foreclosure." This publication lists thousands of business and residential properties and the amount of back taxes owed on them. Copies of the supplement will be available for purchase at a cost of 75¢ each, at the Farmington Observer office, 33411 Grand River.



"My resolution? Work harder and to smile more."
Sean Cowley, Farmington native, attending Purdue University



"My New Year's resolution was to be in Hilton Head right now, but I'm not. That's the problem."
Rick Kristoff, Farmington



"I find I don't keep resolutions. Since September 11, I find myself trying to be nicer to people."
Sandy Kusza, Livonia resident and Farmington business owner



"My New Year's resolution is to make what you can out of nothing."
Dale Milligan, Farmington

Festival headlines our Top 10 Good News stories list

We all remember the bad news from 2001. So we thought we'd take a look back at the good news, stories of honors and awards, outstanding performances and events — without even a hint of politics, terrorism or crime — in our *Observer Top Ten Stories of 2001*:

10. The North Farmington High instrumental music department and Mid-American All Stars Pompon troupe traveled to Washington, D.C. to perform in events related to the inauguration of President George W. Bush in January. The All Stars performed in the inaugural parade, and NFHS students competed in the Presidential Inaugural Festival, earning a number of first and second place awards. Harrison High's marching band took first place in state competition this fall.

9. The Farmington High Falcon Society combined volunteer efforts and fund-raising to renovate the school's outdoor athletic facilities. Their multi-phased plan for improvements began with brick pavers and improvements to the

football/soccer stadium, and development of a plaza that will allow students to eat outdoors in warmer weather.

8. The annual TV-10 telethon for middle school after-school programs raised \$12,300 in March. Farmington Hills Youth and Family Services marked the 5th anniversary of the after-school program for middle school youth with a celebration at the Costick Activities Center in March. Later in the year, the Cornucopia Ball, which moved into the headquarters of Bosch Corp. in Farmington Hills, raised more than \$50,000 to support the after-school centers and other youth programs.

7. Long-time civic volunteer Lincoln Avery was named "Citizen of the Year" by the Jaycees. Hills Mayor Nancy Bates received the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Citizen Award. Youth and Families Governor George W. Romney Award, as their outstanding volunteer of the year in March. And the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce honored

Please see **GOOD NEWS, A2**

Community leaders share their resolutions, wishes

BY SUE BUCK
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When the lifeblood of the community rests in the hands of its leaders, it's not surprising that city officials wrap their New Year's resolutions in a community outlook.

Farmington City Manager Frank Lauthoff prefers to look at the big picture.

"This New Year's resolution is for the community, trying to be mindful of all the good things," Lauthoff said. "Sometimes we get stuck on the little things and we let them upset us too much. We're fortunate to live in this country and in this community."

Picking just one good thing isn't possible for him. "What a year it's been in this country," Lauthoff continued. "We began the year with the Supreme Court and the election and we're ending the year in war."

He also mentioned that City of Farmington officials expect to finalize the city's goals at the 5 p.m. Jan. 7 meeting at Farmington City Hall. Farmington Public Safety Direc-

tor Gary Goss isn't one for setting personal resolutions but admires those who do, like athletes whose goals include reaching their personal best.

"I don't usually do resolutions," Goss said. "They get modified as time goes by. I do the best I can and move along."

Judy Downey, Executive Director of the Farmington Downtown Development Authority places community development high on her list. "I want to promote downtown Farmington to the best of my ability," Downey said.

She wants to improve the quality of shopping and dining in the city and welcomes all businesses.

Farmington High principal John Barrett, who ended the year on a high note with completion of his doctorate, hadn't come up with any specific resolutions for the New Year, but looks forward to a challenging 2002.

A new school accreditation program called "Transitions" heads the list, along with two major district

Please see **RESOLUTIONS, A2**

THE PAPER TODAY

OPINION

Hearts and darts: Like all years, 2001 had its share of good and bad, heroes and villains — and we're recognizing both. /A6

HOMETOWN LIFE

Cookie time: Pour yourself a glass of milk and get ready to dunk! Girl Scout cookie sales are well underway. Girl Scouts are out in force through Jan. 20, going door-to-door taking orders for cookie favorites, like Thin Mints and Caramel deLites. /C5

REAL ESTATE

New year: How many times have you wished someone a happy and healthy New Year? Well, if that someone works in residential real estate sales, you could have saved your breath. /E1

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COROLLA 1992 DX
80,000 miles, 4 door sedan, auto, air, new tape deck...

This ad was fantastic! Not only did I have many calls, but I was able to sell the car on the first day. J.D., Birmingham

HOME TOWN CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
1-800-579-SELL



District plans start time outreach over 2 months

BY SUE BUCK
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When the Edina Public School District in Minnesota studied the possibility of delaying high school start times based on adolescent sleep time research, the decision-making process took more than two years.

In September, 1998, Edina was the first school district in the country to

embark on this initiative.

By contrast, a proposed communication plan targeted by the Farmington School District promotes the later start concept to staff, parents, students and the community during two months — January and February, 2002.

Diane Bauman, director of school/community relations distributed copies of the tentative plan to the community outreach subcommittee in

December. It lists a variety of communication venues including student, district, city and Chamber of Commerce newsletters, library and parks recreation information, a speakers bureau, some type of survey and a town hall meeting.

"My concern is that this does not give us enough time to adequately communicate this and receive feedback," said subcommittee member Sue Zurvalec,

assistant superintendent of staff and community services.

But parents who support the concept say it's an idea whose time has come.

"Some of what I've read suggests that we are almost abusing kids by forcing them to wake up at an unnatural time and forcing them to start school before they are ready to start to study," said Phil Neuman, chairman of

Please see **SLEEP, A8**



Andy Kravis

Farmington High student takes on Jeopardy!

BY SUE BUCK
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Andy Kravis, 13, a freshman at Farmington High School, remembers Nov. 15 as a banner day.

Friends and acquaintances — some whom his family hadn't heard from in years — excitedly kept him on the phone because they saw his picture in the *Farmington Observer*. Kravis was Farmington Mayor during Student Government Day and everyone wanted

to talk about it.

Callers found out this wasn't Andy's only claim to fame. He was told that same day he would be traveling to Los Angeles to participate in the 15th annual "Jeopardy" Teen Tournament. NBC will air the show at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6 and 12.

In fact, during his segment, he told game show host Alex Trebek about his mayoral experience.

Andy's mother Sandy, father Jim, and brother Collin, 15, also a Farmington High

School student, accompanied Andy to Los Angeles for five days in December. NBC paid airfare for two people, put the family up at a hotel and provided \$400 for expenses.

Both brothers went to Cincinnati in August to take a Jeopardy! test, which required 35 of 50 correct questions to pass. Andy did.

Only about 300 of the 4,000 people who tried out were successful.

"I've wanted to be on the show since I was

Please see **JEOPARDY, A5**

Cupid, candy, candlelight and the Red Wings

Cupid, candy, candlelight and the Red Wings. Ahh, romance ... we all need it, sometimes a little, sometimes a lot. History is full of couples who were famous for it: Anthony and Cleopatra, Romeo and Juliet, Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere, Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston.

Pitt and Aniston? Only time will tell. Now's your time to make history. Love is in the air. Cupid is ready to draw back his bow and let his arrow go straight to your lover's heart. And the Observer Newspapers wants to help.

In honor of Valentine's Day, we are sponsoring a "Lessons in Love" contest. We want you to describe in 100

words or less a dream romantic evening for two. The big night will take place Friday, Feb. 8. We can't promise you an evening in Paris, but we can come pretty close:

- Two tickets to Red Wings game
 - Dinner for two at Cafe Cortina in Farmington Hills
 - Transportation compliments of International Limousine in Westland
 - Candy from Kennitz Fine Candies & Gifts in Plymouth
 - A dozen red roses from Flowers from Joe by Carolyn in Livonia
- Sorry, you'll have to buy the fancy dude, tip your hair stylist and pay the babysitter, a small price for romance.
- One more thing, you don't have to be a famous poet like Elizabeth Barrett Browning ("How do I love thee?

Let me count the ways") or a Rocky Balboa ("Adrian!") to express your love in unforgettable words. You simply have to write your best version of a romantic evening for two.

Now for the rules. They're simple: You must be at least 18 years old. Limit your entry to 100 words or less, and send your Lessons in Love entry to us by Friday, Jan. 25. And, of course, you must be very romantic. The winner will be announced Thursday, Jan. 31. Send entries to: Cathy Young, Lessons in Love Contest, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48160, phone: (734) 953-2155.

